

CHAPTER THREE: MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Southeast Regional Office, Cultural Resources Stewardship Division offers the following management recommendations to help resource managers identify areas for further research, expand existing programs, and maintain records related to historic cultural resources. These management recommendations are a direct result of the program to update the List of Classified Structures (LCS). Included are some preliminary recommendations for the management and treatment of cultural resources that may require additional funding and which should be incorporated into the park's Resource Management Plan and reflected in PMIS project statements.

The daily life of Charles Pinckney is somewhat of an enigma. In order to draw a more complete picture of his life and try to determine how and when he used Snee Farm, a special history study of Charles Pinckney is currently being undertaken by Marty Matthews of the University of South Carolina. This study will comprehensively examine Charles Pinckney's correspondence, deeds, wills, estate inventories, and suits at law. It is recommended that this study be published and made available to historians and researchers.

No collected edition of Charles Pinckney's writings has ever been published. Although Pinckney's personal papers were destroyed in an 1861 fire, numerous pamphlets, speeches, and letters are available in various published and unpublished sources. Collecting Pinckney's writings and making them available at the site would greatly benefit scholars and students. If funds are available, publication of Pinckney's collected writings should also be considered. A preliminary bibliography of Pinckney writings is included in this document.

Up to fifty slaves lived on Snee Farm, and their contributions to the cultural and physical landscape cannot be overstated. A special history study of Gullah culture and life ways is necessary to gain a more complete understanding of the life of the slaves. This study, currently underway, should be used to increase the interpretation of Gullah life at Snee Farm and the contributions of African Americans to its success.



Figure 33, Interpretation of archeological site

The site derives much of its significance from the demonstrated *in situ* archeological deposits associated with the tenure of Charles Pinckney. The park is in an exciting position to demonstrate how archeology can expand on the understanding of history. The park should continue to expand upon its interpretation of these archeological sites

for park visitors.

As funding permits, additional archeological research should be conducted. There are a number of other facilities that are expected to exist on a plantation of this size. Archeological research could uncover these facilities, including a plant nursery, slave cook house, slave hospi-



Figure 34, View of Snee Farm

tal, spinning and weaving shop, dairy, stable, barns, blacksmith shop, storage facilities, and livestock areas. Archeological research may also uncover specialized activity areas related to indigo processing, animal husbandry, tobacco and cotton production, as well as other agricultural pursuits. Future excavations in the slave village and east yard have the potential to contribute to the understanding of the full context of everyday life for field slaves and house slaves.

Although the farm's original 715 acres have been dramatically reduced to twenty-eight acres, the farm still has integrity as an agricultural site. The views of the marshes and fields are intact and appear largely the same as during Pinckney's tenure. It is critical that these vistas be maintained. Development in these areas should be avoided. Additionally, attempts should be made to identify and reseed the fields with native grasses.

Rice cultivation was the underpinning of Pinckney's wealth and the daily occupation for many of the Snee Farm slaves. The existence of the levee is evidence of the dams and levees that allowed the successful cultivation of the crop. A footpath to the levee should be cleared and the levee should be interpreted.

Evidence indicates that the original marker or cenotaph to Colonel Pinckney erected at Snee Farm in the 1780s was placed horizontally on the ground on a low brick platform. The current replacement marker stands as a vertical tablet, which helps visitors understand that it is a replacement. The original cenotaph is located at Christ Church, one quarter of a mile from Snee Farm. Visitors should be encouraged to visit Christ Church to view the original cenotaph.

The presence in the Charleston area of NPS properties relating to the Revolutionary War (Fort Moultrie), the early national period (Charles Pinckney), and the Civil War (Fort Sumter) offers a unique interpretive opportunity. Charles Pinckney's career forms a link between the ideals of the Revolutionary generation and those of the fire-eating secessionists of the antebellum period. The South Carolinians who led their state out of the union in 1860 believed themselves faithful to the republican principles of Jefferson, Charles Pinckney, and John C. Calhoun. Methods of interpreting these linkages at Charles Pinckney National Historic Site should continue to be explored.